Opening of a Dispensary at Pallam.

32. MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the people of Pallam in Kottayam taluk have applied for a dispensary being opened for them and

(*b*) whether any action has been taken in the matter?

MRS. M. POONEN LUKOSE: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government are of opinion that a dispensary at Pallam is unnecessary at present.

Income under "Recoveries on Salt."

33. MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the amount realised every year under the head "Recoveries on Salt" from 1098 to 1108;

(*b*) the duty levied in every year:

(*c*) the justification for realising the amount under "Recoveries" over and above the duty;

(*d*) the price at which one maund of local salt is now (11-3-109) sold in Travancore, and of this price what is the amount realised as duty, what is the amount realised as "Recoveries" and what is the actual cost of production of the salt;

(*e*) whether the British Government realise anything like "Recoveries" and, if so, what and

(*f*) whether the Government propose to abolish the item "Recoveries"?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*):

			Rs.	Ch.	C.
(*a*)	1098	...	1,85,583	19	11
	1099	...	2,03,431	9	9
	1100	...	2,18,186	20	13
	1101	...	1,77,133	27	8
	1102	...	2,36,241	7	14
	1103	...	3,78,667	2	14
	1104	..	3,06,190	11	11
	1105	...	3,09,996	3	10
	1106	...	3,07,538	9	11
	1107	...	3,19,433	13	4
(*b*)	1098	...	19,42,492	2	5
	1099	...	21,29,012	5	9
	1100	...	14,63,718	4	7
	1101	...	14,48,062	4	11
	1102	...	14,48,407	16	7
	1103	...	15,25,467	1	6
	1104	...	15,66,572	24	12
	1105	...	15,46,294	16	14
	1106	...	15,29,807	26	3
	1107	...	18,74,433	3	14

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It is now too early to furnish the figures for 1108.

(*c*) The "Recoveries" are realised to meet the following charges incurred in the sale of salt:

1. Establishment and contingent charges.
2. Cost of construction of new sheds.
3. Interest on the capital investment for the construction of sheds.
4. Cost of maintenance of the sheds.
5. Cost of the wastage written off the accounts.
6. Charges incurred for the transport of salt from the salt factories to the salt depots and salt bankshalis.

(*d*) The price of local salt varies from Bh. Rs. 2 annas 3 to Bh. Rs. 2 annas 8 pies 6 per maund. Out of this the duty realised is Bh. Re. 1 annas 9 per maund. The amount realised under "Recoveries" varies from 4 annas to 9 annas 6 pies per maund. The cost of production is roughly estimated at $2\frac{3}{4}$ annas per maund.

(*e*) In British India also, "Recoveries" are realised under the head "Cess" on every maund of salt removed from the factories, to cover the expenditure incurred by Government for the maintenance of the factories. The amount realised is different for each factory and depends on the quantity removed.

(*f*) No.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: Since we are not supplied with this statement we find it extremely difficult to put supplementary questions. So we pray that at least in future the statements be placed at least half an hour before question time. Also we are not able to hear even the official members. So it will be better to have the answers placed on the table at least half an hour before question time.

PRESIDENT: I shall consider whether any change in the procedure is possible.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the member whether any amount is realised by the Government for the maintenance of the preventive staffs in the vrious Ranges?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I am giving the figures for the salt factories and the salt depots. There is no separate preventive staff for the salt factoriees.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: I want to know whether for the preventive staff anything is realised from the people or from the licensees?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: That has nothing to do with the main question.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know the rates of "Recoveries" prevalent in British India?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: They vary.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: What will be the approximate rate?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN: I cannot say that.

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